

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hiroki FURUKAWA Art Unit:
Application No.: filed concurrently Examiner:
Filed : December 9, 2003
Title : NULL SYMBOL DETECTION DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to his duty of good faith and candor as set forth in 37 CFR 1.56(a), applicant requests that the references cited on attached form PTO-1449 (a copy of which is enclosed) be considered by the Examiner in connection with the search of the prior art required by 37 CFR 1.104.

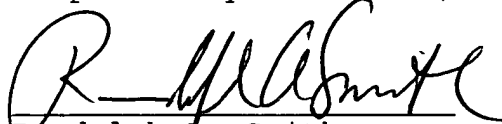
Please note that Japanese Patent Publication No. 11-27333 and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002-0042661 are discussed on page 1 of the specification. An English language abstract of the Japanese reference is also enclosed.

This Statement is being filed under 37 CFR 1.97(b) prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached at the telephone number listed below. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address below.

Respectfully submitted,


Randolph A. Smith
Reg. No. 32,548

Date: December 9, 2003

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Complete if Known

Filed concurrently

December 9, 2003

Hiroki FURUKAWA

Examiner Name

1

of

1

Attorney Docket Number

0074/037001

¹Unique citation designation number. ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.